

a switch matrix, coupled to said telephone network 65 interface, for providing an information signal received over a selected one of said plurality of channels simul-

14

18. The method of claim 16 further including the steps of:
digitally processing claim from said active member
user in order to produce a sequence of vocoder data packets
for modem transmission to said network call manager.

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15

19. The method of claim 16 further including the step of coupling said information signal from said active member user through a wireless communication network to said selected one of said plurality of telephone channels.

20. The method of claim 16 further including the steps of:
 encrypting information signals generated within the one
 of said plurality of telephone sets associated with said
 active member user;

transmitting the encrypted information signals to said
 network call manager; and

decrypting the encrypted information signals received
 from said network call manager at the ones of said
 plurality of telephone sets associated with said other
 ones of said member users.

21. In a communication system in which users commu-
 nicate through a switched telephone network, a private
 communication network for facilitating communication
 among a plurality of member user telephone sets, said
 private communication network comprising:

a network call manager including:

a telephone network interface for establishing a tele-
 phone connection with each of a plurality of tele-
 phone lines of said switched telephone network, each
 of said plurality of telephone lines being associated
 with one of said plurality of member user telephone
 sets,

16

a switch matrix, coupled to said telephone network
 interface, for providing an information signal received
 over a selected one of said plurality of telephone lines
 simultaneously to other ones of said plurality of tele-
 phone lines via said telephone network interface, and

controller means for configuring said switch matrix in
 response to talk request signals received over said
 plurality of telephone lines; and

a plurality of eligible member user telephone sets, at least
 some of said eligible member user telephone sets being
 connected to the private communication network
 through a wireless communications system, disposed
 for simultaneous communication over said plurality of
 telephone lines, each of said eligible member user
 telephone sets including means for generating one of
 said talk request signals.

22. The private communication network of claim 21
 wherein said controller means including means for identi-
 fying said selected telephone line by choosing among ones
 of said talk request signals received over corresponding ones
 of said plurality of telephone lines.

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Add A7
 Add B1

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